

Department of Natural Resources

Brownfields Green Space and
Public Facilities Grant

&

Brownfield Site Assessment Grant

SAG and Green Space

- Eligibility Criteria:

(1) Must be a brownfield

(2) No financially viable causer

Eligibility - Brownfield

In order to qualify for both grants the property must be:

- an abandoned, idle or underused industrial or commercial facility or site, the expansion or redevelopment of which is adversely affected by actual or perceived environmental contamination

Eligibility- Brownfield

- No property that was solely residential, agriculture, or municipal
- Env. contamination = hazardous substance in environment (air, land, water, etc.)
 - facility with lead pipes, lead paint or asbestos in building not eligible

Eligibility- Brownfield

- If there is not confirmed contamination, there must be reasonable basis to conclude that contamination is likely to be present

Eligibility - Causer

In order to qualify for both grants:

- Person who caused the contamination that is the basis of the grant request must be unknown, unable to be located or unable to pay for the cost of the eligible activities

Eligibility - Causer

- Identify known and perceived contamination
- Determine who may have caused the contamination based on historical records, phase 1& 2, title search, etc.
- If known, applicant must make effort to determine if causer exists or has ability to pay

Eligibility - Causer

- Clearly document how conclusion was reached:
 - explanation of why causer is unknown (multiple former operators who handled similar chemicals, etc.)
 - efforts to locate company (WI Dept. of Financial Institutions, Internet search, etc.)
 - copies of financial or bankruptcy statements or corporate dissolution

Eligibility - Causer

- Applicant must demonstrate that criteria are met
- Call DNR if you have questions
- If the information you provide is not clear, we may request additional information with quick turnaround

Eligibility - Causer

GREEN SPACE ONLY

- If viable causer, grant can be awarded if:
 - grant is for cleanup beyond minimum
 - someone (RP, City, etc.) agrees to fund minimum necessary cleanup

Eligibility - Causer

GREEN SPACE ONLY

- *Example:*
 - City uses PECFA to pay for cleanup of old gas station but closure includes performance standard and city needs to excavate contaminated soil to create park

Brownfields Green Space & Public Facilities Grant

A 3D graphic of the word 'NEW!' in a bold, sans-serif font. The letters are yellow with a thick orange outline and a drop shadow, giving them a three-dimensional appearance. The exclamation mark is also yellow with an orange outline.

- Brief History
- Basics
- Scoring Criteria
- Helpful Hints
- Timeline

Brief History

- New grant program
- Recommended by Brownfields Study Group in 2000 report
- \$1 million for this program included in 01-03 State Budget
- Program regulations (NR 173) sent to Natural Resources Board in August 2002

Brief History

- Program goals:
 - antiquated-blighted property \Rightarrow open space and community assets
 - encourage the cleanup and reuse of brownfield properties
 - community partnerships
 - smart land use
 - meet community needs
 - \$ for projects w/o direct economic benefits

Program Basics

Type of Projects

- 100 year old foundry property along river into an extension of bike trail
- Abandoned paint manufacturing facility into a new library branch
- Old scrap yard into new tennis courts

Program Basics

- Grants can be used for:
 - environmental remediation; and/or
 - preparation of remedial action plan.
- Eligible applicants = local governments
 - a city, village, town, county, redevelopment authority, community development authority, or housing authority

Program Basics

- Projects must have long-term public benefit; including:
 - green space
 - recreation area
 - use by a local government
- Phase I and II Assessment must be complete and submitted with application

Program Basics

- Maximum Grant - \$200,000
- Grant period - 24 months
- At least 20% of grants will go to projects \$50,000 or less
- Required match can be paid by local government or non-profit partner

Program Basics

- Minimum Required Match:
 - 20% for grants < \$50,000
 - 35% for grants > \$50,000 and <\$100,000
 - 50% for grants > \$100,000 and <\$200,000
- Costs eligible as Match:
 - remediation costs
 - property acquisition
 - canceled delinquent taxes
 - demolition
 - planning and design
 - investigation costs

Program Basics

Grant Conditions

- Before DNR will reimburse grantee, following must be met:
 - local government or non-profit must own or control (i.e. lease) property
 - land use deed restriction for 20 yrs
 - Site Investigation & Remediation Plan approved by DNR

Scoring Criteria

- Competitive review if more applications than available \$
- Highest possible score = 100
- Criteria are described in rule and in application instructions
- New program = unclear how competitive it will be

Scoring Criteria

4 factors considered:

- Environmental Benefits - 35%
- Need for Project - 25%
- Financial Commitment - 25%
- Community Commitment - 15%

Scoring Criteria

Environmental Benefit

- Health and Environmental Risk
- Likelihood Site will reach closure
 - ↑↑ points with completed and approved RAP and SI
- Extent of Blight

Scoring Criteria

Need for Project

- Economic distress in community
- Population Served
- Demonstrated need for park or facility

Scoring Criteria

Financial Commitment

- Excess pledged match beyond minimum
- Past costs (last 5 years)
- Financially prepared/ committed financing

Scoring Criteria

Community Commitment

- Property ownership
 - ↑↑ points if local gov. or non-profit owns property
- Public involvement w/ cleanup and land use
- Community Partnerships
- Project included in land use plan

Helpful Hints - Before You Apply

- The more environmental work conducted the higher the score and the better more successful project
 - Get your SI and RAP in for review
- Take title or start acquisition process

Helpful Hints - Before You Apply

- Build community partnerships and support
- Collect information on site history and cause of contamination and status of causer

Helpful Hints - The Application

- Make sure that all required attachments are included
- No points will be awarded for optional attachments that are not included
- Detailed summary of the environmental work conducted must be included - will help with score

Helpful Hints - The Application

- Budget for remediation required
- Large number of costs eligible for match & past costs: planning, acquisition, etc.
- Don't pledge too much match
- Past costs must be paid & documented

Helpful Hints - Scoring Criteria

- Provide detailed explanation in attachments with facts and statistics
- Obtain and document committed financing for remediation and site development
- Include land use plan that recommends this project

Timeline

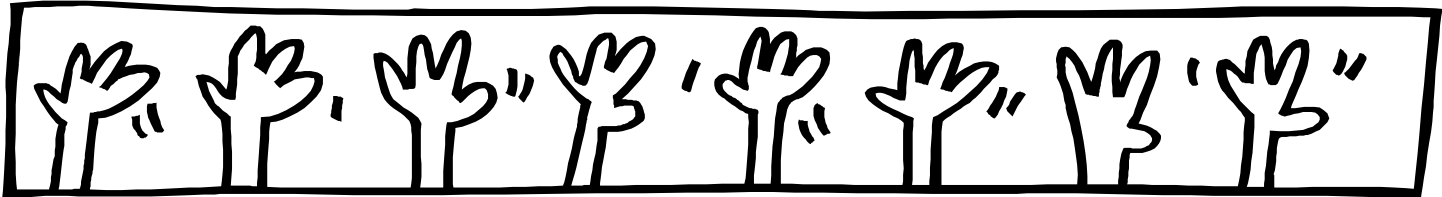
- August, 2002 - Applications available
- January 17, 2003 - Application submittal deadline
- March 2003 - Grants awarded
- Grant period = 2 years (possible extension)

Questions?

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Brownfield Site Assessment Grant (SAG)

- Brief History
- Basics
- Scoring Criteria
- Helpful Hints
- Timeline



Brief History

- Original idea from Brownfields Study Group
- \$1.45 million was available in 1999-2001
- \$3.4 million available for 2001-2003
- 103 SAGs to 72 communities since 2000
- \$3.15 million granted in 3 rounds
- Local gov'ts. leveraged over \$2 M more

Brief History

- Program philosophy:
 - “jump start” work on brownfields
 - get sites ready for redevelopment
 - lead to Commerce Brownfields Grant, Green Space & Public Facilities Grant, or private development

SAG Basics

- Eligible applicants = local governments
 - a city, village, town, county, redevelopment authority, community development authority, or housing authority
 - do not need to own property, must have access
- \$1.7 million available in 2002-2003
(Round 4)

SAG Basics

- 2 grant sizes
 - Small: \$2,000 - \$30,000
 - Large: \$30,001 - \$100,000
- Match of at least 20% is required
- Funds initial activities and investigations on properties with known or suspected contamination

SAG Basics

- Eligible activities:
 - Phase I Environmental Site Assessments
 - Phase II Environmental Site Assessments
 - site Investigations
 - demolition
 - asbestos removal associated with demolition
 - removal of abandoned containers
 - removal of Underground Storage Tanks (USTs)
- NOT cleanup money

Scoring Criteria

- Must score applications if receive requests for more money than is available
 - small grants: 70% or \$1.19 million
 - large grants: 30% or \$510,000
- Highest possible score = 164
- Last round info:
 - small grants = all funded, did not need to score
 - large grants = cutoff 99 points

Scoring

- All scoring info is in the application
- Ownership: gets more points (20) than formal acquisition process (10)
- Past cost & excess match: large grants did well when they had spent more money
 - includes cleanup \$

Scoring

- Bonus points:
 - can be used once for a small grant, once for a large grant
 - applies to life of program, not just a round

Helpful Hints - Before You Apply

- determine what activities need to be performed
- obtain cost estimates for activities from a qualified professional
- get access and/or ownership

Helpful Hints - Before You Apply

- collect information on the history of the site and cause of contamination
- budget for match
- prepare and approve a **municipal resolution** in support of the project
- contact the DNR for assistance

Helpful Hints - The Application

- Revised & improved Form 4400-217
- Multiple contiguous properties:
 - Fill out pages 1, 4 and 5 once for whole project
 - Fill out pages 2, 3 for each separate parcel
- Asbestos abatement applies only to demolition for both grant request and match
- Be as complete as possible

Timeline

- August, 2002 - Applications available
- **November 1, 2002** - Application submittal deadline
- Late December 2002/early January 2003 - Grants awarded
- Grant period = 1 year (possible 1 year extension)

Questions?

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